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TO: Chief, P&amp;PG

FROM: Chief, Prepress

SUBJECT: FY 91 Initiative

DATE: 19 November, 1990

This memo is for your information, and is in reference to the FY 91 initiative to recapitalize the P&PG composition systems. It has been a year in which the CPAS LAN has been installed, and several new requirements have surfaced, that have a impact on the need and capabilities of a new composition system:

a) During the FY 90, CPAS PDB Staff brought online their new PC based LAN network. The purpose of this system is to make the production of the PDB and, at a later date the, NID a more efficient operation. This LAN must intergrated with the composition system we plan to purchase in order for P&PG to provide an adequate support capability for quick processing of these publications. It is essential that P&PG be able to support these requirements. Our present systems cannot provide this support.

b) P&PG, FBIS, OSWR, CPAS and other offices in the Intelligence Community have been working on developing a method to standardize databases used for publishing CIA publications on the P&PG composition systems. The Agency is currently researching the application of SGML (Standard Generalized Markup Language). SGML has the ability to give the Agency a method to share databases, produce electronic versions of publications printed on P&PG's new composition system. This will provide the Agency and the Intelligence Community with a method for returning to the customer an electronic copy of the final edited document for updating at a later date. This concept has been reviewed by the Information System and Planning Group (ISPG) of the Directorate of Planning and Coordination. The ISPG has endorsed this concept and is recommending this approach to the Information Standards Board (ISB) on 29 November 90 with the objective of adopting SGML as an Agency Strategic Direction. P&PG will be the primary office for testing and evaluating SGML. The impact of this project could surpass our FY 91 initiative by millions of dollars in areas far beyond the area of printing. The present composition systems can not support SGML software and the purchase of a new composition system is mandatory for this project. There is presently a FBIS/P&PG working group that has been studying SGML for the past year. The working group has discovered that all of the users of our products would be interested in using an electronic copy of Agency publications and the SGML databases, however, they would continue to receive the printed copies of the documents. This was true for all components including FBIS publications.

c) The Xyvision system presently installed at P&PG has been declared no longer supportable. This includes both hardware and

software. Therefore the Xyvision system is effectively no longer operational. It is imperative that a new composition system be purchased and installed in FY 91 in order to maintain at least the present level of production. We have moved all of the jobs previously processed on the Xyvision system located in the Main Printing Plant, to the ATEX system as a short term solution to our production needs. However, the ATEX system cannot maintain the increased work load for an extended period of time without overloading the composition system.